City of Lafayette Staff Report

For:	City Council
By:	Leah C. Greenblat, Transportation Planner
Date Written:	January 16, 2009
Meeting Date:	January 26, 2008
Subject:	Stanley-Springbrook Traffic Calming Project

Introduction

The Council previously established a $30,000 neighborhood match requirement for the Stanley-Springbrook Traffic Calming Project. Through a variety of creative, non-traditional fundraising efforts and neighborhood community building endeavors, the neighborhood achieved its match and wishes to officially present the funds to the City Council.

Staff recommends that the Council thank the neighborhood for their efforts, accept the neighborhood match, amend the 2009 CIP to include the Stanley-Springbrook Traffic Calming Project and allocate $70,000 of the Traffic Calming Program reserve funds for the project's design and construction.

Discussion

In March of 2008, the City Council approved the Stanley-Springbrook Traffic Calming Project, established the neighborhood matching fund contribution at $30,000 and indicated your intent to allocate $70,000 of the existing Traffic Calming Program fund reserve pending receipt of the neighborhood matching funds. At that time, the Council established an October 31, 2008 deadline for raising the funds, but later extended the deadline until December 31, 2008. The Acalanes Valley and Ridge Neighborhood organized itself following the development of the Stanley-Springbrook Traffic Calming Project and this group took on the responsibility of raising the neighborhood matching funds. Their website, excerpt attached, contains information about the variety of fundraising activities they undertook. In late December, the neighborhood representatives notified staff that they had reached their match requirement. Residents from the neighborhood plan to officially present the Council with the funds at your next Council meeting.

While the traffic calming project is not currently in the 2009 CIP, there are two other separately funded, but related projects already in the CIP which the City is planning to construct this year. For your reference, below is a table summarizing the status of the multiple projects:

	Process Status			
Project	**Funding**	**Design**	**Public Mtgs.**	**Next Steps**
Sidewalk:				
Camino Diablo to Barott	In place	Complete	Done	Advertise in Feb., Award bid in March, construct spring/summer
Barott to Warner	Pending grant application	Preliminary	Done	Await grant outcome
Warner to Bacon	Not funded	N/A	N/A	N/A
Warner Curve Re-Alignment	In place	Complete	Done	Coordinate with sidewalk and traffic calming projects.
Traffic Calming: Camino Diablo to City Limit	Pending Council Action	Preliminary	Info. mtg. by 4/1/09	Complete design, advertise and award bid in summer

Fiscal Impact

The Stanley-Springbrook Traffic Calming Project was estimated to cost $100,000 with a 70-30 cost share between the City and the neighborhood. The Traffic Calming Program Reserve Fund has a current balance of $299,211.

Recommendation

1. Thank the neighborhood and accept their matching contribution for the Stanley-Springbrook Traffic Calming Project

2. Allocate $70,000 of Traffic Calming Program fund reserves for the design and construction of the project

3. Amend the 2009 CIP to include construction of the project

Attachments

1. Excerpt from Acalanes Valley and Ridge web site

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We Did It!

Stride by stride, brick by brick, slice by slice, and sip by sip, the residents of Acalanes Valley and Ridge neighborhood - the community just east of Acalanes High School - embarked on a quest to build a neighborhood that supports safety, wellness and a sense of community.

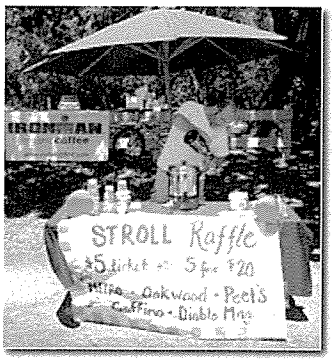
In November 2007, after witnessing repeated instances of speeding, reckless driving, and sadly, one fatal car accident, residents of Acalanes Valley and Ridge approved a ballot measure to make neighborhood streets safer for all pedestrians.

In May 2008, a handful of residents began requesting donations with a goal to collect $30,000 by October 2008. This deadline was then extended to December 31, 2008.

And on December 23, 2008, the final donations were deposited through the City of Lafayette.

With the funds collected and a contribution of $70,000 from the City of Lafayette, a series of traffic calming measures, such as enhanced crosswalks and medians, will encourage drivers entering our neighborhood to be mindful of the speed limit and obey traffic laws. As a result, our streets will become more pedestrian-friendly and our children will be safer as they walk or bike to school, activities and friends' houses.

How Did We Do It? Our Fundraising Efforts



The main fundraising drive was the Buy-A-Brick promotion. Residents and businesses were encouraged to make a donation and in return an inscribed brick will be placed within the traffic calming design.

Other fundraisers included a walk-a-thon; coffee and bake sales; water sales; raffles for in-kind donations from both residents and businesses; fundraisers at RoundTable Pizza, Mangia, Baja Fresh, and Mountain Mike's Pizza; holiday portaits sessions; a wreath making session; and bottle and can recycling.

Direct monetary donations and corporate matching grants also helped us reach our goal.

Why Did We Do It? $30K But So Much More

Yes, the goal was $30,000 but a major component to the endeavor was to build not only safer streets but to build community. As a result of the efforts, new residents of Acalanes Valley and Ridge feel welcome and a part of this 50-plus year old community. New playgroups for the youngest residents have been formed as well as new friendships for both the young and old. Friendly faces will walk the neighborhood with their dogs or children, ride their bikes or skateboards to our great local resources now and for many years to come.

What Can We Expect? The Next Steps

Over the next few months the City of Lafayette will be working on the design of the traffic calming features as well as the sidewalk design and Stanley Blvd./Warner Court curve project. All together, our neighborhood will benefit from approximately one half million dollars in improvements in the new year! For more information about the three-tiered approach to safety, visit the Progress page of this website. We intend to keep this website up-to-date with information about all three safety projects.

Thank You!

Thank you to those that volunteered their time and resources as well as those who made contributions large and small. A special thank you goes to the City of Lafayette who is making this all possible. See below for a listing of our business sponsors - and thanks again!

All donations are tax-deductible. The City of Lafayette is a 501(c) organization. For any amount donated over $250, the City will send a confirmation letter.

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